Mohammed! The Sultan of Sulu is the last of a dynasty which has as the base of its genealogical tree the prophet Mohammed. Across the sea in Mindanao, Sharif Kabungsuwan, the Sultan of Maguindanaw, claimed descent from Mohammed. Fact or fiction?

From this point we are on surer ground. And first a word about the unrivaled exploit of Ferdinand Magellan, a Portuguese in the service of Spain, in sailing around the world. Of him it can be said with assurance that he ranks as the first navigator of ancient or modern times. His voyage was the most notable single human achievement on the sea. History further records the sad fact that this intrepid leader met his death on Philippine soil. On the Island of Mactan opposite the City of Cebu a modest monument commemorates his fame, and there constantly come reverent visitors to do honor to the discoverer of the Philippines.

The word "Lapu-Lapu" is widely known to residents of the Philippines as a fish popular with epicures, but it also has historical significance. Lapu-Lapu was the first Filipino chieftain to resist European invasion after the discovery of the Philippines by Spain, and this he did successfully when Magellan was killed. Regardless of how much we may lament that the worthy Magellan was the victim of this encounter, we must concede that it took courage of a high order for Lapu-Lapu to attack these strange foreigners protected by armor and equipped with superior weapons.

Of the same fiber as Magellan were Miguel Lopez de Legaspi and Andres Urdaneta, whose

expedition daringly set forth from Mexico to colonize and Christianize the unknown Philippines. The work of Legaspi during his crowded years in the Islands entitles him to a place as a colonizer without a peer.

The Spaniards have conquered Manila and made it the capital of the colony. In the year 1574, Li-Ma-Hong, a bold Chinese corsair to some, a celestial Sir Francis Drake to others,